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ELY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

in the

Administrative County of Cambridgeshire

and Isle of Ely

=====

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1968



B. W. M. MACARTNEY

B. M., B. Ch., D. P. H., D. C. H.

Medical Officer of Health
Ely Urban District Council
Shire Hall,
Cambridge

Tel. No: Cambridge 58811



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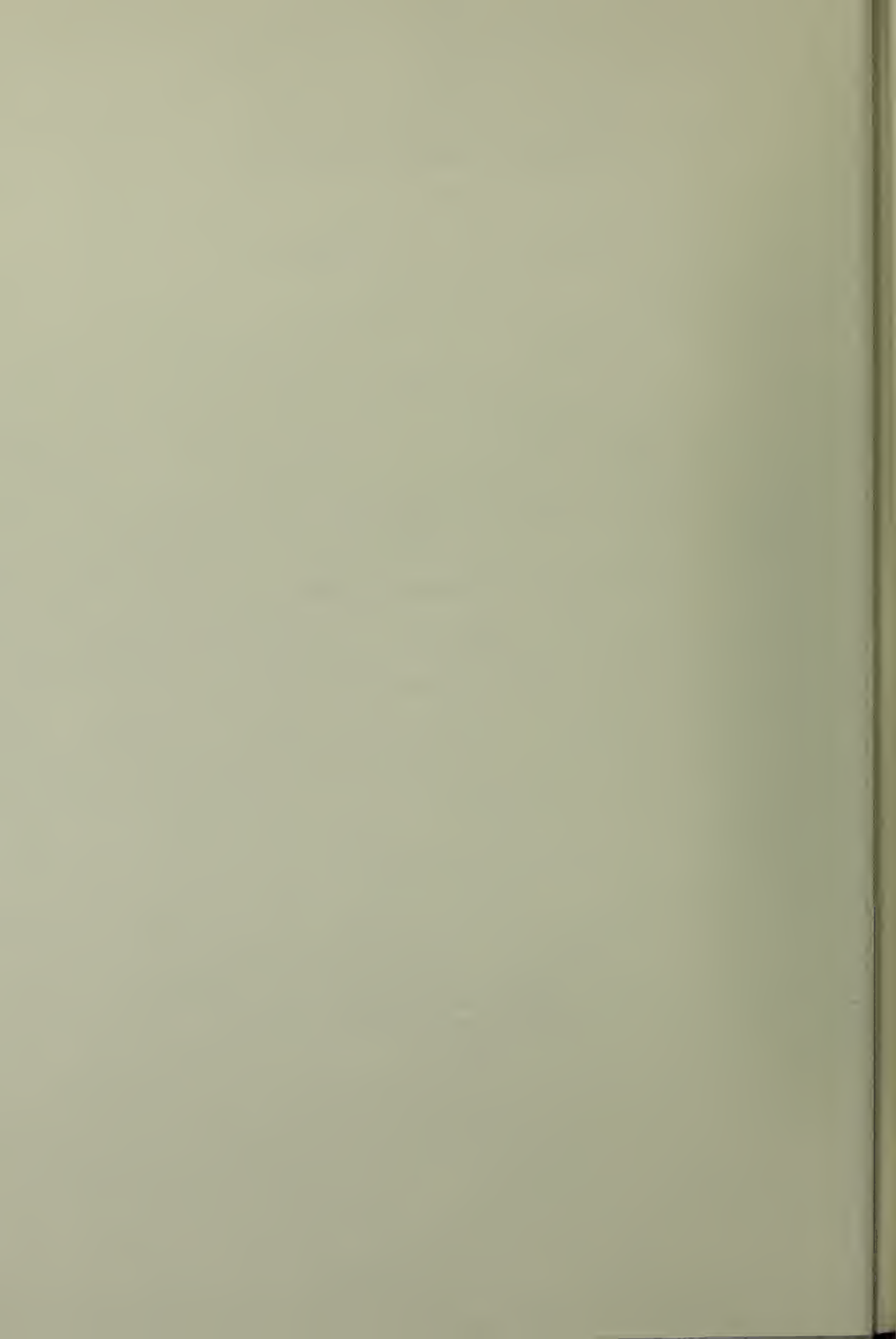
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Officers

Medical Officer of Health

M. E. HOCKEN, M. B., Ch. B., D. P. H.
(Acting to 31st August, 1968)

B. W. M. MACARTNEY, B. A., B. M., B. Ch., D. P. H., D. C. H.
D. (Obst.), R. C. O. G.
(From 1st September, 1968)

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. W. BRYAN, M. R. S. H., M. A. P. H. I.

Clerk/Typist

MRS. P. M. TURNER

LOCAL INFORMATION

Area	14, 659 acres
Rateable Value at 31. 3. 68	£452, 358
Penny Rate for 1967-68	£1, 807
Estimated Number of Inhabited Dwellings (1. 4. 68) ...	3, 266
Estimated mid-year population	10, 060

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ely Urban District Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1968, prepared in accordance with Department of Health and Social Security's Circular 1/69.

I took up my appointment on 1st September 1968 and I am sure that the Chairman and Members of the Council will consider it fitting that I should record, here, their thanks, together with my own, to Dr. M. E. Hocken, who undertook the duties of the Medical Officer of Health during the interregnum caused by the decease of my predecessor.

Vital Statistics

The estimated mid-year population of 10,060 shows an increase of only 30 over that for 1967. There were 32 more deaths than births, which is against the trend for England and Wales and reflects in a crude Birth Rate of 11.9 (England and Wales 16.9) and a crude Death Rate of 15.1 (England and Wales 11.9). The corrected Death Rate of 9.5 probably indicates that, in comparison with England and Wales, the population of this City is more heavily weighted with old people. We find another indication that this may be so when we consider the age of death. The Corrected Rates do follow the trend for England and Wales.

An examination of the causes of death shows that malignant disease was responsible for about 13% (20) of deaths, one-third of these being due to lung cancer. 15% (23) of deaths were due to ischaemic heart disease and cerebrovascular disease, strokes, accounted for 24% (36) of deaths. I have quoted the actual number of deaths from these causes in the brackets. Cerebrovascular disease particularly affects old people and I note that 28 of 36 deaths from this cause occurred in people aged 75 years or more.

Unfortunately the classification of causes of deaths has been changed slightly since 1967 and it may not be strictly correct to equate ischaemic heart disease with coronary disease and angina, but these conditions are sufficiently similar to give significance to the observation that 23 deaths from this cause in 1968 as compared with 16 in 1967 represents an increase of nearly 50%.

Three children died during the first year of life. Two had congenital anomalies. With figures as small as these no significance need be attached to the fact that the Infant Mortality Rate at 25.0 is in excess of the Rate for England and Wales (18.0).

Infectious Disease

The record of notified infectious disease shows nothing very remarkable. There was a small outbreak of sonne dysentery in a primary school which was investigated and controlled by the school health service. The main factor in the prevention and control of outbreaks of this infection is scrupulous personal cleanliness and hygiene but it is also evident that close personal contact during the particularly infectious diarrhoeal stage also plays a part in the spread of this disease and I would ask parents to consult their family doctors, before sending their children to school, if they are in any doubt. In general it is as well that any child with diarrhoea should not attend school, or mix with other children out of school, until four days after the diarrhoea ceases.

The year saw the introduction of Public Health (Infectious Disease) Regulation 1968 which brought the list of notifiable disease up to date, excluding some whose significance belongs to a by-gone age, and including tetanus, infective hepatitis and leptospirosis. The latter two are of particular interest as the clinical diagnosis is by no means easy and is often impossible without laboratory help, they are however diseases that are probably responsible for considerable morbidity. The Regulations also extend the powers of the

Medical Officer of Health in the carrying out of his duty to prevent the spread of infectious disease, including food poisoning.

2 new cases of tuberculosis were notified in 1968. The register now reads:-

Tuberculosis Register

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Respiratory	17	8
Non-Respiratory	-	2

The Environment

The greater part of the work of the Public Health Department is concerned with the control of the environment, in order to safeguard and promote the public health. This work is reported and commented upon by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

During 1968 the Chief Public Health Inspector again carried the weight of his work single handed, apart from the help of a Veterinary Surgeon with some of the meat inspection. It is I think appropriate to record the thanks of all concerned to Mr. T. W. Jackson for his help in enabling this important work to be carried out efficiently and in accordance with the law, although it does ~~not~~ mean that it is not possible to provide the Council with precise details of all the work.

The great honour of ancient foundation does present a City such as Ely with certain problems. A relatively large number of buildings, some of architectural interest, can no longer be considered fit to live in, by present standards. The full inspection of these properties, so that proper advice can be given to both the owners and the Council is a heavy burden and does itself present the Council with a heavy responsibility for rehousing.

It is most satisfactory to be able to record that the Urban District is provided with a wholesome chlorinated water supply by the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board.

It is the general duty of the Officers of the Public Health Department to observe, investigate, comment and act upon any circumstance or situation which may affect the health of the people of this District. It is for this reason that I am particularly grateful to Mr. Stroud, the Engineer and Surveyor, for his contribution to this report and for the information that he has at last persuaded the appropriate Ministry to give approval for work to proceed with the provision of a modern sewage disposal system for those parts of Prickwillow which at present lack this facility. I understand that the Council intends to give early consideration to a scheme to replace, by a more satisfactory practice, the present "skep" system of refuse collection, by which some of the dwellings are still served.

My thanks are due to Mr. Bryan for the conscientious manner in which he has discharged his many duties, and to the Chairman and members of the Health and Housing Committee and of the Council for their help and interest.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
B. W. M. Macartney.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. M. E. Hocken acting until 31st August, 1968.

Dr. B. W. M. Macartney from 1st September, 1968.

Under arrangements made by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council under Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1933, the Medical Officer of Health to the Ely Urban District Council, Ely Rural District Council and Newmarket Rural District Council is combined with the appointment of Senior Medical Officer to the County Council by securing for the appointment of a full time Medical Officer from 1st September, 1968.

Public Health Inspector

During the year Mr. Bryan continued as Chief Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertake bacteriological and biological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water samples, and all necessary examinations in cases of infectious disease.

Hospitals

The District is served by hospitals of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

- (i) Tower Hospital
- (ii) St. John's Hospital
- (iii) Grange Maternity Hospital

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are sent to Cambridge City Isolation Hospital.

The area is very fortunate in being able to be helped by the extensive and willing services of the R. A. F. Hospital, Ely.

Ambulance Service

Two ambulances are stationed at Ely, both being operated by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council.

During 1968 the St. John Ambulance Brigade informed the County Council that because of the decreasing calls upon their ambulance stationed at Littleport, they intended to terminate the arrangement whereby the St. John Ambulance Brigade provided an ambulance for Littleport and the surrounding area.

Nursing Services

These services are provided by the County Council - details in Appendix.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS, 1953

As far as I know we have not taken any action with regard to the "Carriers" of food poisoning infections.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, SECTION 31 (amended)Meals on Wheels

Organised by the W. R. V. S. and meals are delivered three times a week.

Sections 47 and 50

As far as I am aware no action was required under either of these Sections.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations)

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	51	65	116
Illegitimate	2	2	4
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Totals	<u>53</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>120</u>

Birth rate per thousand estimated population	11.9
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (0.97)	11.5
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	16.9

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

Rate per thousand live and still births	7.0
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)	14.0

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Deaths</u>	66	86	152

Death rate per thousand estimated population	15.1
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.63)	9.5
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	11.9

<u>Infant Mortality</u> (Deaths of infants under one year of age)	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1 (1)	2 (—)	3 (1)
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets)

Infant Mortality rate (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)	25.0
Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales)	18.0
Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)	8.3
Early Neonatal Mortality rate (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)	8.3
Perinatal Mortality rate (Still births and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)	33.0
Legitimate Infant Mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births	25.9
Illegitimate Infant Mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births	Nil
Maternal deaths (Deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	Nil
Deaths from cancer	20
Ischaemic Heart Disease	23

Table Classifying Deaths under Age Groups

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	1	-	1
4 weeks and under 1 year	-	2	2
1 year and under 5 years	-	-	-
5 years and under 15 years	-	-	-
15 years and under 25 years	-	-	-
25 years and under 35 years	-	-	-
35 years and under 45 years	-	-	-
45 years and under 55 years	3	5	8
55 years and under 65 years	11	6	17
65 years and under 75 years	18	13	31
75 years and over	33	60	93
	<u>66</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>152</u>

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS, 1968

Age in Years	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis		Dysentery	Measles	Totals
			Paralytic	Non-Paralytic			
Under 1 year	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
1 -	-	1	-	-	-	8	9
2 -	-	2	-	-	-	7	9
3 -	2	2	-	-	-	11	15
4 -	-	3	-	-	-	14	17
5 - 9	5	-	-	-	14	70	89
10 - 14	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	2	-	-	2	-	4
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	12	-	-	17	111	147

Age in Years	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Para- typhoid	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Totals
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 44	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	1	1	-	-	-	-	2

R E P O R T

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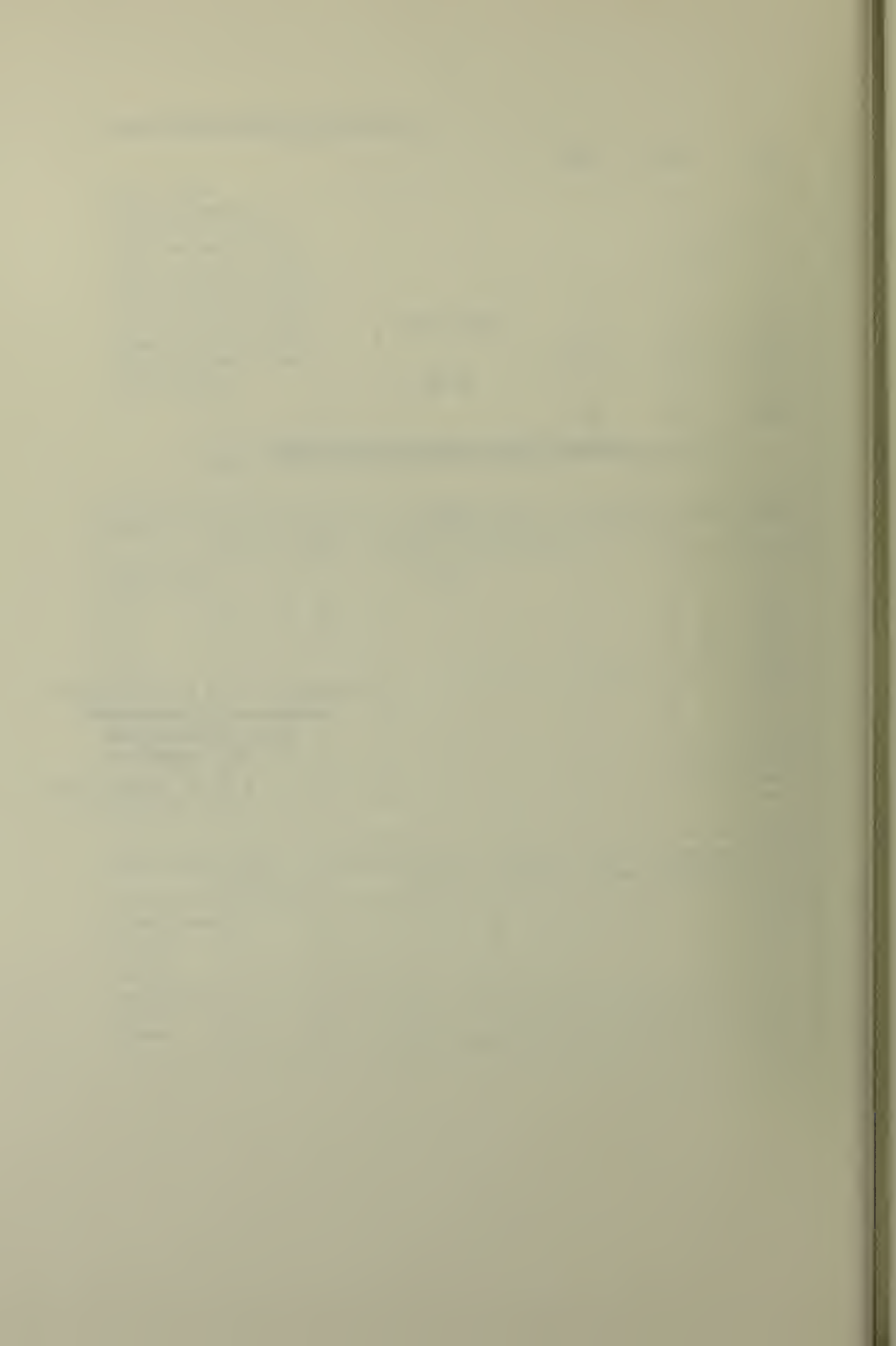
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for

1 9 6 8

J. W. Bryan, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Department of Public Health
Urban Council Offices,
Ely, Cambs.

Tel. No. Ely 331 1/2/3



Appendix to M. O. H. 's ReportNURSING SERVICES FOR ELY URBAN DISTRICTPROVIDED BY COUNTY COUNCILAnte-natal and Post-natal Clinics

Domiciliary Midwives' Clinic	1st and 3rd Thursday 2 to 4 p. m.	St. Mary's Clinic, Ely
Grange Maternity Home (ante-natal clinic)	Weekly Monday	St. Mary's Clinic, Ely

General Practitioners hold ante-natal clinics in their own surgeries.

Midwifery Service - Grange Maternity Hospital, Ely

In consultation with the medical and nursing staff of the hospital and domiciliary services, agreement has been reached whereby in suitable cases, patients may be admitted to the hospital, remaining in the care of their general practitioner and district midwife, who attends them for delivery and continues their care at home 48 hours after delivery, the general practitioner and district midwife being responsible for their ante-natal and post-natal care.

Child Health Clinics

Wednesday	St. Mary's Clinic, Ely	2 to 4. 30 p. m.	Assistant M. O. attends weekly (new arrangement)
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Attended by Ely Health Visitors and voluntary helpers

Thursday	R. A. F. Hospital	2 to 4 p. m.	Attended by Health Visitors from Ely
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Geriatric Visiting

This is undertaken by Ely Health Visitor in close liaison with Chesterton Hospital and the Tower Hospital, Ely.

Chiropody Service

Organised by the Ely Nursing Trust.

Health Visiting and School Nursing

This is undertaken by the Ely Health Visitor.

Mothercraft Talks

Talks are given to certain school children by arrangement with the Head Teachers.

Eye Clinics

Clinics are held regularly attended by Dr. Perrers-Taylor.

1. HOUSING

(a)	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation or in a condition prejudicial to health	61
(b)	Number of preliminary notices served	4
(c)	Number of reports made to the local authority with a view to:-	
	(i) The serving of notices requiring the execution of works	Nil
	(ii) The making of demolition orders	6
	(iii) The making of closing orders	Nil
	(iv) The making of closing orders on part of a building	Nil
	(v) Voluntary undertakings not to re-let and to demolish when required	Nil
	(vi) Demolition order substituted by a closing order	3
	(vii) Two clearance Areas were declared and Clearance Orders made, the number of houses involved was	10
(d)	Number of formal notices served requiring execution of works	Nil
(e)	Number of houses demolished	7
	Number of houses closed	8
	Part of building closed	Nil
	Persons displaced	18
	Families displaced	9
(f)	Number of houses made fit	Nil
(g)	Number of formal notices served under the Public Health Act 1936	Nil
(h)	Inspection referring to Certificate of Disrepair	Nil
(i)	Improvement Grants made. (Financial year to 31st March, 1969):	
	(Discretionary) - 6	£3, 327. 17s. 1d.
	(Standard) - 12	£1, 925. 7s. 5d.
	Total	<u>£5, 253. 4s. 6d.</u>

Council houses improved by aid of grant - 22.

New Dwellings

17 houses and 16 bungalows were built by private enterprise during the year. The Local Authority built only two houses for sale.

It is again appropriate to comment that a regular supply of new dwellings for letting is required especially for rehousing of persons from unfit property.

There were only 5 bungalows (no houses) built for letting in the year 1966, none in 1967, and none in 1968.

It will also be necessary in the future to consider erection of one bedroom accommodation for the rehousing of single persons from houses in clearance areas and individual unfit houses.

2. FOOD(a) Premises

- (i) 16 premises are registered for the preparation of sausages and preserved food.

- (ii) 56 premises are registered for storage and sale of ice-cream. There is no ice-cream manufactured for sale in the area.
- (iii) The following are food handling premises in the area:-

BAKEHOUSES	2
BREWERY	1
BUTCHERS	10
CAFES and RESTAURANTS	12
CHEMISTS	4
CLUBS	10
CONFECTIONERS	12
DAIRY	2
FISH and CHIP SHOPS	5
GREENGROCERS	5
GROCERS and GENERAL STORES	22
HOSPITALS and HOMES	6
OFF LICENCES	2
PUBLIC HOUSES	24
SLAUGHTERHOUSES	1
SCHOOL KITCHENS	4
SUPERMARKETS	2
VEGETABLE WASHING	1
WET FISH SHOPS	1
WHOLESALE WAREHOUSES	2
WORKS CANTEEN	4

The post of Additional Public Health Inspector was again not filled during the year. A Veterinary Surgeon in private practice continued to assist in meat inspection duties on two days per week and at holiday periods.

A survey was made during the year of the steps taken by food shops to code perishable foods to ensure proper rotation of sales.

(b) Meat Inspection - Period 1st January to 31st December 1968

The tables below cover only those animals inspected by the Chief Public Health Inspector as details of the work carried out by the Veterinary Surgeon are not available.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number slaughtered for sale for human consumption	312	Nil	Nil	459	242
Number fully inspected and stamped	312	Nil	Nil	459	242
Number not inspected	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses found unfit	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit	83	Nil	Nil	6	33
Percentage of the number inspected or partially inspected which were affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis	22.4%	Nil	Nil	1.37%	11.9%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses found unfit	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.62	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.065%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was found unfit	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally found unfit	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

MEAT AND OFFAL UNFIT

	Bovine	Porcine	Ovine	Total Weight
Livers	65	26	2	549 lbs.
Lungs	17	9	11	147 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Kidneys	-	3	-	3 lbs.
Hearts	1	7	1	9 lbs.
Intestines	1	-	-	10 lbs.
Mesenteric Fat	7	1	-	30 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Heads	-	6	-	60 lbs.
Spleen	7	-	-	14 lbs.
Skirt	7	-	-	11 lbs.
Pleura	2	-	-	
Stomach	1	-	-	
Flank	1	-	-	2 lbs.
Pig Chine	-	1	-	6 lbs.
Pig Hock	-	1	-	3 lbs.

Inspection charges recoverable - £59.10s.6d.

(c) Unsound Food 1968

The following food commodities were voluntarily surrendered during the year as unfit for human consumption.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Weight</u>				
		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qtrs.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	<u>ozs.</u>
Corned Beef	94 tins	-	2	-	8	-
Ham	24 tins	-	-	1	8	8
Luncheon Meat	37 tins	-	-	1	4	6
Beef	96 tins	-	-	3	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chopped Pork	39 tins	-	-	1	13	6
Stewed Steak	59 tins	-	-	3	17	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Chicken Fillets	2 tins	-	-	-	-	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Veal	2 tins	-	-	-	7	15
Pork Loin	7 tins	-	-	1	2	-
Sausages	6 tins	-	-	-	11	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat Balls	10 tins	-	-	-	10	-
Ox Tongues	6 tins	-	-	-	6	-
Lambs Tongues	14 tins	-	-	-	7	12
Spam	11 tins	-	-	-	8	4
Tinned Fish	543 tins	-	2	2	16	$\frac{3}{4}$
Tinned Vegetables	812 tins	-	7	2	27	10
Tinned Fruit	3,931 tins	1	6	1	20	13
Creamed Rice	176 tins	-	-	3	1	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Evaporated Milk	42 tins					
	13 pints					11 fluid ozs.
Cranberry Sauce	12 tins	-	-	-	6	-
Various Tinned Products	52 tins	-	-	1	19	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
<u>Frozen Food</u>						
Fish Products	100 pkts.	-	-	1	17	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat Products	69 pkts.	-	-	-	25	13
Vegetable Products	51 pkts.	-	-	1	5	-
Fruit Juices						7 galls, 7 pints, 19 fluid ozs.

3. WATER SUPPLY

A wholesome chlorinated water supply is provided by the Ely, Mildenhall and Newmarket Water Board. The Urban District had for many years been the sole user of a borehole source at Isleham but due to the following changes water is now supplied from a borehole at Beck Row and the Isleham source is used to augment the supply in those parishes of the Newmarket Rural District in the vicinity of Isleham.

To effect this changeover the board's source at Beck Row (formerly supplying the Ely Rural District) has been expanded by the construction of a new borehole of 36 inches diameter and 102 feet deep. A new pumping station has been built with electric pumps capable of delivering about $2\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons of water through a new asbestos-cement main of 18 inches in diameter to one existing and one new water tower in the Urban District.

The new water tower at Highflyers is of 600,000 gallons capacity and connections were made from it to the distribution system which is now fed from two opposite sides so that there has been a very considerable improvement in the daytime pressures in the northern half of the City.

Part of this supply is taken on to new water towers at Littleport and Haddenham to supply the Rural District of Ely.

In addition to this major scheme a further 2,539 yards of main have been laid in the Urban District and 40 new services provided, nine of which were providing a mains supply to existing property for the first time.

12 bacteriological samples were taken at the borehole and all were reported as good. These samples were not however taken before chlorination as chlorine is dosed into the borehole.

Typical results of Analysis of Public Supplies

Test	Beck Row				
Physical Characters	Good				
Reaction	pH 7. 1				
Parts per million.					
Chloride	28				
Residual Chlorine	..				
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0. 00				
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0. 00				
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37 ^o C	0. 20				
Nitrate Nitrogen	6. 9				
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent				
Poisonous Metals	Absent				
Total Hardness	340				
Iron	Absent				
Fluoride	L. T. O. 1				
Bacteriological Examination.					
Coliform organisms in 100 mls.	...				
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 37 ^o C	...				
Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing at 21 ^o C	...				
Comparison by chemical characteristics of water previously supplied and that of new supply.					
SOURCE	p. H.	HARDNESS			Fluorides
		Perm.	Temp.	Total	
ISLEHAM	7. 3	115	195	310	Less than 0. 1
BECK ROW	7. 1	80	260	240	Less than 0. 1

4. RODENT CONTROL

Some 470 properties were inspected during the year both as a result of complaints received and surveys made.

A total of 507 infestations by rats and 112 by mice were found. All of these, except for 67 agricultural infestations were dealt with by the Local Authority operator generally free of charge.

Agricultural premises are not treated by the Local Authority but inspections are made and occupiers instructed to deal with the infestation.

An experiment was carried out on a farm where there was a major infestation to clear the rats and to keep it clear by having permanent baiting points. The experiment was not entirely successful as a re-infestation did occur.

In the town there are now 12 permanent baiting points and a further 25 on the perimeter. These were visited 7 times during the year.

The following disinfestations were also carried out:-

Cockroaches 31, Ants 47, Carpet Beetle 1, Wasps 18, Bees 5,
Woodworm 3, Dry rot, Rabbits 21, and Pigeons 3.

5. PET ANIMALS ACT, 1961

Two licences were issued during the year.

6. CLEAN AIR ACT

One notification of the installation of furnaces was received.

7. NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

One noise nuisance from vibration was abated during the year. The diesel engine used for generating electricity at the local cinema was dispensed with due to a change over to mains electricity.

8. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLINGS MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no registered premises in the district.

9. RADIO ACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT, 1960

Notification has been received by the local authority that one firm is registered to keep and use material at premises within the district.

10. CARAVANS

One licensed site (1 van) became vacant due to the re-housing of the occupant. Another licensed site for 1 van continues in use. There is a municipal site with 10 standings which continues to be fully occupied.

11. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1960

The enforcement of this Act is subject to a special report to the Ministry of Employment and Productivity.

During 1968 there were 917 persons employed in 177 premises. There were 10 new notifications of employment during the year. 46 premises received a general inspection and 64 visits were made.

A prosecution was taken and one firm was fined £20 on each count of (a) office not clean, (b) no suitable and sufficient washing facilities, (c) no suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences.

12. FACTORIES

There are some 54 power factories in the District on the factory register.

One firm employs 51 outworkers, 32 of whom reside in the Urban District.

13. REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A collection service from back doors of dwellings by the 'skep' system is used except on a new council estate where paper sacks are in use. No proposals were submitted to the Council to replace this insanitary practice of emptying a dustbin into another container at the rear of premises.

The refuse tip leaves much to be desired. In an attempt to practice controlled tipping, the refuse should be systematically tipped and regularly covered.

14. SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Engineer and Surveyor comments as follows:-

- (i) The main sewage works in Ely has continued to give a satisfactory effluent. It is intended, however, to install mechanical screen raking in order to reduce the number of large solids finding their way into the pumps. It is hoped to do this during 1969-70.
- (ii) During 1968 Ministry approval was received for the invitation of tenders for the construction of the Main Drainage Scheme for Prickwillow and for an extension of the replacement sewer in Lynn Road, Ely. The scheme for Prickwillow will provide main drainage for approximately 88 dwellings and will do away with the existing malfunctioning sewage works at Kingdon Avenue, together with a cess pool system at Riverside Close. The scheme involves the construction of a new sewage works on the extended aeration principle and the effluent will be pumped to the River Lark.

The extension sewer in Lynn Road is to replace an existing sewer which is inadequate during times of heavy rain and from which flooding occurs of neighbouring private houses. The replacement sewer will cope with the increased flow from the expanding R. A. F. Hospital.

- (iii) The low level sewer in the area broadly to the south-east of Broad Street does not cope very successfully with times of heavy flow. During heavy storms in 1968 the surface water was unable to enter the sewer and caused a certain amount of difficulty in Potters Lane. There is a cross connection between the foul sewer and the surface water culvert at Annesdale Quay and this comes into operation fairly frequently and consequently some foul sewage is discharged into the river. When the present schemes are more advanced I hope to be able to investigate this problem thoroughly and to afford some relief to this sewer by the diversion direct to the river of some, at least, of the surface water.

